

**In the Claims:**

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. (currently amended) A ~~gripper-combined set~~ comprising a gripper and an annular frame, the gripper comprising at least two fingers, ~~which are~~ aligned substantially parallel to one another and ~~are arranged at a distance from one another, said frame being supported by the at least two fingers, and provided for supporting a frame,~~ and wherein a film provided for bearing a wafer is stretched onto said frame, said ~~gripper fingers having vacuum lines~~ being further provided for at least partially supporting said film, said ~~gripper being further provided with vacuum lines ending at the upper surface of the gripper fingers of the gripper~~ in the form of a number of vacuum openings with a raised outlet for partially supporting said frame with the film stretched thereon, said vacuum opening being positioned for ~~which vacuum lines are provided for exerting a suction at certain points on~~ said film.

2. (currently amended) The ~~gripper-combined set~~ as claimed in claim 1, wherein said fingers are provided for at least partially supporting said film in an outer region thereof.

3. (currently amended) The combined set as claimed in claim 1, wherein adjustment pins are fitted on the gripper, which adjustment pins correspond to cut-outs on the frame for the purpose of mutual alignment.

4-8. (cancelled)

9. (currently amended) The combined set as claimed in claim 2, wherein said vacuum openings correspond to said outer region of the film.

10. (currently amended) The combined set as claimed in claim 1, wherein said film and said frame overlap each other partially in a region and wherein in said region said film is not supported by said fingers.

11. (currently amended) The combined set as claimed in claim 1, wherein said fingers having fingertips, which are flattened towards a front thereof.

12. (new) A gripper as a component of a combined set, which combined set comprising a gripper and an annular frame, the gripper comprising at least two fingers aligned substantially parallel to one another and arranged at a distance from one another, said frame being supported by the at least two fingers, and wherein a film provided for bearing a wafer is stretched onto said frame, said gripper having vacuum lines ending at the upper surface of the fingers of the gripper in the form of a number of vacuum openings with a raised outlet for partially supporting said frame with the film stretched thereon, said vacuum openings being positioned for exerting a suction at certain points of said film.